

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-10

INFO OCT-01 SSO-00 ISO-00 /011 R

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DRAFTED BY ARA:MPHANRAHAN

APPROVED BY ARA:PJDEVOS

S/S-OLMATTESON

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O 142245Z NOV 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LIMA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 251714

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

EXDIS FOR MR. BLOOMFIELD

FOLLOWING REPEAT LA PAZ 7408 ACTION SECSTATE SDATED 13 NOV 74

QUOTE

S E C R E T LA PAZ 7408

STADIS

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGSC PFOR BL

SUBJ: GUARANTEEING BOLIVIAN NEUTRALITY

REF: STATE 236927

1. IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS IN REFTL, I BRIEFED PRESIDENT BANZER TUESDAY, NOV. 12 ON U.S. REACTION TO HIS REQUEST FOR GUARANTEE OF BOLIVIAN NEUTRALITY AND OTHER ITEMS RELATED THERETO. PRESIDENT BANZER SEEMED GENUINELY PLEASED THAT U.S. HAD REPLIED TO HIS APPROACH AND INDICATED UNDERSTANDING OF OUR INABILITY TO PROVIDE UNILATERAL GUARANTEE OF BOLIVIAN NEUTRALITY. HE SAID HE CONSIDERS CONFLICT BETWEEN PERU AND CHILE NOT AS SHORT-TERM BUT AS LONGER RANGE PROBLEM. HE AGREES THAT TO RAISE CHILE-PERU SITUATION IN OAS NOW

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WOULD BE INADVISABLE. HE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR COMMITMENT ON

PART OF US THAT IT WILL CONSULT WITH HIM AS CIRCUMSTANCES WARRANT IN DEVELOPING SITUATION BETWEEN CHILE AND PERU, AS NOTED IN PARA 5 OF REFTEL. HE DID NOT REACT TO PRESENTATION ON ARMS LIMITATION AGREEMENT.

2. PRESIDENT EXPRESSED CONSIDERABLE INTEREST IN FORTHCOMING VISIT OF LUIGI EINAUDI OF S/P AND ASKED ME TO PERSONALLY COORDINATE HIS PROGRAM WITH MINISTER OF COORDINATION, GENERAL LECHIN.

3. PRESIDENT TOLD ME THAT SITUATION IN COUNTRY CALM AFTER ABORTIVE COUP IN SANTA CRUZ AND THE TAKING OF FUNDAMENTAL DECISIONS ABOUT A NEW ORDER WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE OF BOLIVIA. HE SAID THERE MAY BE SOME DIFFICULTIES IN THE MINING AREA AND NOTED THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAD TAKEN THE MANACO SHOE FACTORY IN COCHABAMBA THE NIGHT OF NOV 11. FACTORY, HE SAID, HAD BEEN CONSTANT SOURCE OF COMMUNIST AGITATION AND DISTURBANCES OF PUBLIC ORDER.

4. PRESIDENT SAID HE HOPED DEPT OF STATE UNDERSTOOD THAT HE AND HIS REGIME WERE FORCED AGAINST THEIR OWN DESIRES TO IMPOSE NEW ORDER OF GOVERNMENT BECAUSE CIRCUMSTANCES WERE NOT PROPITIOUS FOR ELECTIONS WHICH HE BASICALLY WOULD HAVE PREFERRED. HE SAID HE HOPED UNDERSTANDING WOULD BE SUFFICIENTLY PROFOUND SO AS TO ENCOURAGE FAVORABLE RESPONSES TO INCREASED BOLIVIAN NEEDS FOR VARIOUS KINDS OF ECONOMIC AND INTERNAL SECURITY ASSISTANCE, PARTICULARLY IN VIEW OF ANTICIPATED LARGE DEFICIT IN 1975.
STEDMAN

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INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INSTRUCTIONS, NEUTRALISM, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 14 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE251714
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: MPHANRAHAN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740329-0474
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741142/aaaabjjq.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: STATE 236927
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 09 SEP 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <09 SEP 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <13 MAR 2003 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GUARANTEETING BOLIVIAN NEUTRALITY
TAGS: PFOR, US, BL
To: LIMA
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005